

Dear PERSI Retiree:

During its October 20, 2015 meeting, the PERSI Retirement Board discussed the cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) for retired members of the PERSI Base Plan. By statute (59-1355), the COLA is based on the Consumer Price Index for Urban workers (CPI-U) for the 12 months ending August of the current year. Based on the August 2015 CPI-U, a total of 0.2% was available and thus awarded as a COLA this year. The change will take effect on March 1, 2016 and applies to PERSI Base Plan retirees only.

Because the CPI-U (0.2%) was less than 1.0%, the Board chose to award a retroactive COLA of 0.8% for eligible retirees. A retroactive COLA is a COLA amount available but not awarded in previous years which restores lost purchasing power to eligible retirees. The 0.8% retroactive COLA represents an unused portion not allowed from the available 2012 COLA. Not all retirees are eligible to receive the same amount; individual calculations will be based on the retiree's date of last contribution (DOLC). Retirees will receive detailed remittance letters in March. This year's COLA breaks down as follows (estimated):

